REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	23 June 1998
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Backdoor Lovers 23
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Silwa Film
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Magazine
Country of Origin:	Germany
Language:	German, Dutch, French, English

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature: Not Applicable — Running time:

Trailers: — Running time:

Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

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Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on Not Applicable

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The magazine entitled *Backdoor Lovers 23* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The magazine is classified as an objectionable publication as it contains explicit images of sexual activity which to a significant extent and high degree degrade, dehumanise and demean the women depicted.

The magazine is a glossy publication that contains a large proportion of coloured and explicit photographic images of male to female sexual activity. The magazine is intended to be read by a male audience, and such a readership is catered for by providing a strong focus on the women in the magazine. The magazine provides a focus on full-body images of women engaged in the sexual activity which consists mainly of fellatio and anal intercourse. However at the same time the magazine provides for a stronger focus on images of splayed labia. The photographic images are occasionally accompanied by sexually explicit text which ostensibly describes the women's attitude to the sexual activity. The photographic images and text have the combined effect of degrading, dehumanising and demeaning women to a high degree by presenting them as sexually uninhibited and in a manner that describes the women as sexually insatiable.

The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 has been considered in classifying the magazine. The Classification Office is of the opinion that the classification of the magazine is a justifiable limit on the freedom of expression that is prescribed by law given the manner in which women's sexuality is presented.

OFLC Ref: 9701415